



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: David Alexander et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 10/657,079 CONFIRMATION NO.: 9176  
FILING DATE: September 9, 2003  
TITLE: Interface Device and Method for Interfacing Instruments to Medical Procedure Simulation Systems  
EXAMINER: John Sotomayor (Tel. No.: (571) 272-4456)  
(Fax. No.: (703)872-9306)  
ART UNIT: 3714

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP: RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date printed below:

Date:

7/12/05

Name:

Sharon Byam  
Sharon Byam

MAIL STOP: RCE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Each item of information listed in the attached FORM PTO-1449, for which a copy of each is attached (unless the blanket waiver referred to below applies), may be material to the examination of the above-identified application and is, therefore, submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The Examiner is requested to review, consider and document each such item in the official record of this application.

Note: If this box ☒ is checked, this case was filed after June 30, 2003 and qualifies for the blanket waiver of deposit of copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications in accordance with the written waiver of 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(2)(i) dated July 11, 2003. Accordingly, such copies are not attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of these items constitutes prior art.

# I

This statement is filed pursuant to **(CHECK ONE BOX)**:



**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).**

This information disclosure statement is filed either:

- (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
- (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application;
- (3) before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits; or
- (4) before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, **whichever event occurs last.**

**Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires no fee and no certification.**



**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).**

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but **before** the mailing date of any of the following:

- (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
- (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or
- (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

**Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires either:**

- (1) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); or
- (2) a certification according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) or (2).



**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).**

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c).

**Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires:**

- (1) a certification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); **and**
- (2) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) to consider an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

If this statement crosses in the mail with an office action, or is otherwise not in the indicated category of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, it is respectfully requested that this statement be treated in the next appropriate category and made of record. **To the extent required, please treat this paper as a conditional petition for acceptance of the information disclosure statement.**

## II

### Fees Due (CHECK ONE BOX):

- ☒ No fee is due.
- ☐ The fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) is enclosed (\$180).

## III

### Certification (CHECK ONE BOX):

- ☒ No certification is necessary.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies:  
That each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies:  
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.


## IV

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment to our deposit account number 50-1698.**

Respectfully submitted,  
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: July 12, 2005

  
Theresa Moorman  
Registration No. 46,941

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: David Alexander et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/657,079

CONFIRMATION NO.: 9176

FILING DATE: September 9, 2003

TITLE: Interface Device And Method For Interfacing Instruments To Medical Procedure Simulation Systems

EXAMINER: Travis R. Banta

ART UNIT: 3714

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Date:

8/1/07

Name:

Michelle R. Crosby

Mail Stop: AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) including a Form PTO-1449 containing a list of references which may be material to the examination of the above-referenced application. This submission is not to be construed as a representation that a prior art search has been conducted, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of the listed references constitutes prior art.

The Examiner is urged to carefully consider this Information Disclosure Statement and all the listed references, and to indicate same by initialing the appropriate portion(s) of the Form PTO-1449 and forwarding an initialed copy to applicant.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(2) legible copies of prior art references other than U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications are attached.

**I**

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☐

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- (2) a certification according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) or (2).

☐

**37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).**

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c).

**Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires:**

- (1) a certification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and
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**II**

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**III**

**Certification (CHECK ONE BOX):**

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- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies:  
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- ☐ Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies:  
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

**IV**

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment to our deposit account number 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,  
THELEN REID BROWN RAYSMAN & STEINER LLP

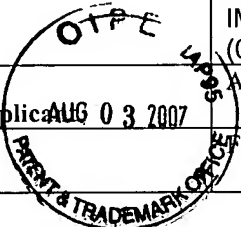
Dated: 8/1/07

S. Bhattacharya  
Suvashis Bhattacharya  
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Form PTO 1449 (Rev. 2-32)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. IMMR-IMD0002C		Serial No. 10/657,079		
<b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b>				Applicant: David Alexander et al.				
(Use several sheets if necessary)				Filed: September 9, 2003		Group: 3714		
U.S. Patent Documents								
Init.		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date	
	A	3,520,060	7/14/1970	C.L. Crabtree et al.				
	B	4,423,428	12/27/1983	Kuwabara et al.				
	C	4,936,892	6/26/1990	Gehring et al.				
	D	5,414,337	5/9/1995	Schuler				
	E	5,769,650	6/23/1998	Aoyama et al.				
	F	5,772,836	6/30/1998	Ogawa				
	G	5,889,670	3/30/1990	Schuler et al.				
	H	6,057,828	5/2/2000	Rosenberg et al.				
	I	6,104,382	8/15/2000	Martin et al.				
	J	6,377,011	4/23/2002	Ben-ur				
	K	6,876,891	4/5/2005	Schuler et al.				
Foreign Documents								
Init.		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
	L	99/39317	8/5/1999	WO			X	
Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
	M	Bliss, James C. et al., "Optical-to-Tactile Image Conversion for the Blind", <i>IEEE Transactions on Man-Machine Systems</i> , Vol. MMS-11, No. 1, March 1970, pages 58-65.						
	N	Hahn, James K. et al., "Training Environment for Inferior Vena Caval Filter Placement", <i>Institute for Computer Graphics, The George Washington University</i> , as early as September 2003, 7 pages.						
Examiner					Date Considered			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.								



Form PTO 1449 (Rev. 2-32)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office			Atty. Docket No. IMMR-IMD0002C (034701-067)		Serial No. 10/657,079	
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div> <b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b>              (Use several sheets if necessary)           </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div>             Applicant: David Alexander et al.              Filed: 09/09/2003              Group: 3714           </div> </div>								
<b>U.S. Patent Documents</b>								
Init.		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date	
		4,391,282	07/05/1983	Ando et al.				
		4,638,798	01/27/1987	Sheldon et al.				
		5,113,872	05/19/1992	Jahrmarkt et al.				
		5,290,276	03/01/1994	Sewell, Jr.				
		5,334,017	08/02/1994	Lang et al.				
		5,339,723	08/23/1994	Huitema				
		5,480,307	01/02/1996	Lang et al.				
		5,567,047	10/22/1996	Fritsch				
		5,667,517	09/16/1997	Hooven				
		5,808,665	09/15/1998	Green				
		5,928,138	07/27/1999	Knight et al.				
		6,037,927	03/14/2000	Rosenberg				
		6,088,020	07/11/2000	Mor				
		6,106,301	08/22/2000	Merril				
		6,113,395	09/05/2000	Hon				
		6,193,653	02/27/2001	Evans et al.				
		6,246,390	06/12/2001	Rosenberg				
		6,375,471	04/23/2002	Wendlandt et al.				
		7,023,423	4/4/2006	Rosenberg				
<b>U.S. Patent Documents</b>								
Init.		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date	
		2001/0016804	08/23/2001	Cunningham et al.				
<b>Foreign Documents</b>								
								<b>Translation</b>
Init.		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
		WO 91/06935	05/16/1991	WO			(abstract)	
<b>Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>								
		Bostrom, Mikeal et al., "Design of An Interactive Lumbar Puncture Simulator With Tactile Feedback," IEEE 0-7803-1363, 1993, pp. 280-286.						
		Chen, Elaine et al., "Force feedback for surgical simulation," Proceedings of the IEEE 86, No. 3, March 1998, pp. 524-530.						
Examiner					Date Considered			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.								